



கார்ட்டுயாடுவா லார்காவ செயற்திறன் அறிக்கை Performance Report 2016

அலாலை கார்ட்டுயாடு
பிரதம அமைச்சர் அலுவலகம்
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE





Performance Report

Prime Minister's Office
No 58, Sir Earnest De Silva Mawatha
Colombo - 07

Telephone : 011-2575317
Fax : 011-2574143
E-mail : info@pmoffice.gov.lk
Website : www.pmoffice.gov.lk

Contents

Title	Page No.
01. Introduction	1
1.1 Vision	2
1.2 Mission	2
1.3 Functions	2 - 3
02. National Policies and Economic Development	5
2.1 Cabinet Committee on Economic Management (CCEM)	6
2.2 Cabinet Committee on Economic Management – Operations Room (CCEMOR)	7 - 8
2.3 Officials Committee on Economic Management (OCEM)	9
2.4 Accelerated Program for the Construction of Middle Class Housing & Infrastructure	10
2.5 Establishment of 2500 Grama Rajya Units (GRUs)	11
2.6 Establishment of Public Service Delivery Authority (PSDA)	12
2.7 Recommencement of Port City Development Project	13 - 14
2.8 Revoking EU Fishing Ban	15 - 16
2.9 Regaining GSP+	17 - 18
2.10 Establishing Japan-Sri Lanka Joint Comprehensive Partnership Secretariat (JCPS) in Colombo and Tokyo	19
2.11 Policy Development Office	20
2.12 Study Committee for Educational Reforms	21
2.13 National Media Centre (NMC)	22
03. Promotion of International Co-operation	23
3.1 Prime Minister's Official Overseas Visits	24
3.1.1 Official Visit to Switzerland - World Economic Forum	24 - 25
3.1.2 Official Visit to South Korea - Rotary International Convention	26
3.1.3 Official Visit to Singapore	27 - 28
3.1.4 Official Visit to Indonesia - World Islamic Economic Forum	29
3.1.5 Official Visit to China	30 - 31
3.1.6 Official Visit to Singapore - Indian Ocean Conference	32
3.1.7 Official Visit to New Zealand	33
3.1.8 Official Visit to New Delhi, India	34

Title	Page No.
3.1.9. Official Visit to Brussels, Belgium.....	35
3.2 Meetings with Diplomats and Foreign Dignitaries by the Hon. Prime Minister.....	36 - 38
04. National Reconciliation, Social Services and Religious Affairs.....	39
4.1 National Reconciliation.....	40
4.1.1 Secretariat for Coordinating the Reconciliation Mechanisms (SCRM).....	41 - 42
4.1.2 Public Representations Committee on Constitutional Reforms (PRCCR).....	43 - 44
4.2. Social Services.....	45
4.2.1 Sinhala and Hindu New Year Festival.....	45
4.2.2 Blood Donation.....	46
4.2.2 Renovation of the Elders Home at Meerigama.....	46
4.3 Religious Affairs.....	47
4.3.1 Colombo Navam Pageant.....	47
4.3.2 Offering Sanghagatha Dakshina to 1000 Rev. Buddhist Priests.....	48
4.3.3 Exposition of Sacred Relics of Lord Buddha & Items of Religious and Archaeological Importance.....	49 - 50
4.3.4 Buddha Rashmi Vesak Festival.....	51
4.3.5 Ifthar Festival.....	52
4.3.6 The annual Esala Maha Pagent of the Valukarama Temple Kollupitiya.....	53
4.3.7 Deepawali Festival.....	54
05. Redress for Public Complaints and Grievances.....	55
5.1 Referring Public Complaints and Grievances Received by the Prime Minister's Office to Relevant State Institutions and Follow – Up.....	56 - 57
5.2 Facilities Provided to Submit Public Complaints/ Grievances via Official Website of the Prime Minister's Office.....	58
06. Parliamentary and Legal Affairs.....	59
6.1 Parliamentary Affairs	60

Title	Page No.
6.1.1 Cabinet Memoranda, Notes to the Cabinet and Furnishing Answers to Parliamentary Questions.....	60
6.1.2 Tabling of Parliamentary Reports.....	61
6.2 Legal Affairs.....	62 - 63
07. Development of Human Resources and Enhancement of Infrastructure Facilities.....	65
7.1 Development of Human Resources.....	66 - 67
7.2 Making Use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT).....	68 - 69
7.3 Management of Temple Trees Premises.....	70
08. Financial Progress.....	71
8.1 Financial Progress.....	72 - 73

01. Introduction

1.1. Vision

“Free, Sovereign and Prosperous Sri Lanka”

1.2. Mission

“To provide supportive leadership for an excellent public sector comprised of good governance practices, by proper co-ordination of government and non-government institutions in order to fulfil the aspirations of the people of the country and to uplift their standard of living”

1.3. Functions

The main function of the Prime Minister’s Office is to facilitate the implementation of various official duties of the Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

This office will also render assistance in following process:

- Building the economy
- Fighting corruption
- Ensuring freedom
- Developing infrastructure and investment
- Developing education

in accordance with the Election Manifesto “Five-Point Plan – A New Country in 60 Months”

Further,

- Render requisite assistance to implement Government’s policies and decisions
- Facilitation, co-ordination and follow up action with regard to various Committees and Meetings chaired by the Hon. Prime Minister
- Preparation of answers for parliamentary questions asked from the Hon. Prime Minister
- Co-ordination of activities pertaining to draft acts referred to the Parliament by the Hon. Prime Minister
- Provision of required facilities for the Hon. Prime Minister to maintain relations with Foreign Diplomatic Delegations and various officials in diplomatic corps.
- Co-ordination and monitoring of foreign visits of the Hon. Prime Minister

- Facilitating media coverage for state and national functions and special occasions
- Organizing state sponsored special religious festivals and functions of social care and hospitality.
- Handling public complaints and grievances received by the Hon. Prime Minister and referring them to relevant institutions for redress.
- Proper maintenance of Temple Trees, Prime Minister's Office and Prime Minister's Official Bungalows
- Routine administrative and development functions in the Prime Minister's Office.

02. National Policies & Economic Development

2.1. Cabinet Committee on Economic Management (CCEM)

Cabinet Committee on Economic Management (CCEM) was appointed by a Cabinet Decision dated 22.09.2015 to deliberate and make suitable recommendations on matters related to Economic Management to the Cabinet of Ministers and the functions of the committee are as follows;

- 1) To examine Cabinet Memoranda relating to economic affairs, monetary and fiscal policy and financial affairs and submit recommendations to the Cabinet
- 2) To provide guidance in the preparation of the National Investment Programme, Public Investment Programme and facilitation of Private Sector Investment
- 3) To submit recommendations to the Cabinet on proposals with economic and financial implications
- 4) To oversee the implementation of various legislation which have direct bearing on the investment/ economic development of the country

Composition of the Committee

- Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe Prime Minister (Chairman)
- Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva Minister of Transport
- Hon. Rauf Hakeem Minister of City Planning & Water Supply
- Hon. Anura Priyadarshana Yapa Minister of Disaster Management
- Hon. Ravi Karunanayake Minister of Finance
- Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka Minister of Megapolis and Western Development
- Hon. Kabir Hashim Minister of Public Enterprises Development
- Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga Minister of Ports & Shipping
- Hon. Sagala Ratnayaka Minister of Law & Order and Southern Development
- Hon. Malik Samarawickrama Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade
- Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama Minister of Special Assignment

Secretary to the Prime Minister functions as the Secretary to the Committee. From January 2016 to 31th December, 2016, 43 meetings of the committee have been held and 931 decisions / policy directives have been given mainly on key economic issues related to National Policies & Economic Affairs, Finance, Development Strategies & International Trade, Transport & Civil Aviation, Ports & Shipping, Power & Renewable Energy, Highways and Public Enterprises Development.

2.2. Cabinet Committee on Economic Management – Operations Room (CCEMOR)

The Operation Room of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Management was established in March 2016 as per the Cabinet Decision of 07th March at the Prime Minister's Office at Temple Trees to facilitate the CCEM in implementing its decisions.

CCEMOR is jointly headed and supervised by a committee comprising of Hon. Dr. Sarath Amunugama, Minister of Special Assignment and Hon. Niroshan Perera, State Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs. The other members of the committee comprise the Director General of the Department of Project Management and Monitoring and one Additional Secretary from the Prime Minister's Office. Under the guidance of this committee CCEMOR facilitated 30 meetings chaired by Hon. Minister of Special Assignment / State Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs in 2016 parallel to the CCEM meetings. The meetings were co-chaired by Mr. Charitha Ratwatte, Senior Adviser to Hon. Prime Minister and Mr. R. Paskaralingam, Advisor to the Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs.

The objectives of the meetings were to resolve the issues pertaining to the implementation of Government development interventions and so far have been focused on development sectors including Tourism Promotion & investment projects, Power & Energy projects, Water sector Projects, and Land ownership issues.

As per the Cabinet Decision a committee on Central Administration and Financial Unit (CA&FU) was appointed on 5th July 2016 and the committee is assigned to suggest the reforms on administration and financial management.

In addition, under the guidance of Mr. J Charitha Ratwatte, Senior Adviser to Hon. Prime Minister, CCEMOR has engaged in number of interventions to address the current national issues which are summarized below.

- 1) Paddy Purchasing Programme – Maha 2016, Coordinated with the Paddy Marketing Board (PMB) to find storage facilities.
- 2) Teacher Recruitment (Education Reforms) - Teacher Recruitment Programme for the subjects of Science, Mathematics and English Island wide was coordinated with the Provincial Ministries of Education and the central Ministry of Education. (451 teachers were recruited under the programme in Eastern, Northern, Sabaragamuwa, Uva Provinces).
- 3) Teacher Recruitment Programme for Physical Training Instructors (PTI)

- 4) Development of online database for Safety Net Programme – with the Information and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA) and Department of Project Management and Monitoring (DPMM).
- 5) Micro Finance - Implementation of the Micro Finance Act. with the National Secretariat for Non-Governmental Organizations.
- 6) Progress Review meetings of National Youth Services Pilot Project- with National Youth Core and Cadet Core.
- 7) Establishment of 900 Dialysis Machines in Sri Lanka - Initial discussions were held to establish 900 Dialysis Machines with DCDC Health Services PVT LTD India and the Ministry of Health. The Ministry of Health was assigned to further carry out the implementation of the project.
- 8) Monitoring of District Level Development Programmes (Decentralized Budget and Rural Infrastructure Development Projects) in collaboration with the Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs.

2.3. Officials Committee on Economic Management (OCEM)

Officials Committee on Economic Management was appointed by Hon Prime Minister to make suitable recommendations on matters related to Economic Management to the Cabinet Committee on Economic Management (CCEM). The committee consists of the public officials representing major institutions involved in providing policy directions to whole economy in the country.

Composition of the Committee

- Mr. R. Paskaralingam - Advisor to the Ministry of National Policies & Economic Affairs (Chairman)
- Mr. Charitha Ratwatte - Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister
- Mr. Sumith Abeysinghe - Secretary to the Cabinet of Ministers
- Dr. R H S Samarathunga - Secretary, Ministry of Finance
- Mr. M I M Rafeek - Secretary, Ministry of National Policies & Economic Affairs
- Mr. M C L Rodrigo - Addl. Secretary, Prime Minister's Office
(Up to 04.11.2016)

Major functions of the committee are as follows;

- 1) To study Cabinet Memoranda referred to the CCEM, relating to economic affairs, monetary and fiscal policy and financial affairs and submit recommendations to the CCEM
- 2) To provide suitable policy directives to the various project proposals submitted by Private Sector Investors
- 3) To provide instructions and guidance for the matters referred to the OCEM and select most important matters to be referred to the CCEM
- 4) To monitor the progress of the decisions taken at the OCEM and CCEM

Thirty-Five (35) meetings of the committee have been held during the year 2016. The committee had given its observations and recommendations for more than 486 inquiries including various cabinet memoranda which were referred to Cabinet Committee on Economic Management (CCEM) by cabinet decisions and various other requests forwarded by ministries, departments, state owned enterprises and private entities. This include more than 10 inquiries referred to CCEM for ratifications.

2.4. Accelerated Program for the Construction of Middle Class Housing & Infrastructure

The Monitoring Committee consists of Mr. J Charitha Ratwatte, Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister and senior officials of the relevant stakeholder organizations such as the Ministry of Housing and Construction, National Housing Development Authority and Urban Development Authority, under the chairmanship of Mr. R Paskaralingam, Senior Advisor to the Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs has been appointed for the implementation of National Priority Programme for construction of houses and providing infrastructure for middle income earners, as per “Five-point Plan for creating a new country within 60 months.”

Construction works of 06 Housing Projects have been initiated as at present under this programme which is being implemented as a Public- Private Partnership.

No.	Project	No of Housing Units
1	Nugagaha Kanaththawatta - Panadura	196
2	Dambuawatta – Ragama	124
3	Werellawatta- Lanka Loha Land- Yakkala	669 and a marketing complex
4	Iskagarawatta - Kundasale	340
5	Mount Clifford Watta- Homagama	600
6	Jalthara- Phase II –Homagama	352

In this instance, the Government has made the contribution by providing land with all public amenities for construction of houses, providing infrastructure facilities such as pipe borne water, electricity and roads and granting requisite approvals without delay, for construction of houses.

Further, purchasing price of these houses will be determined by the Government and also, actions will be taken to award credit facilities to the beneficiaries at concessionary interest rates through state and private sector banks.

2.5. Establishment of 2500 Grama Rajya Units (GRUs)

According to the Five Point Manifesto Plan, 2500 cluster villages called as Grama Rajya Units (GRUs) will be established with the aim of socio – economic and cultural development of locality, social well-being, sharing ownership of social economic goods and aligning the development to the national development goals.

The Grama Rajya Units will be formed by combining three or four Grama Niladari Divisions and these units will be provided fully equipped economic centers under the Grameen Marketing Concept. The GRUs villages will be administrated by its own people. An Administrative Division coming under a Divisional Secretary (DS) is expected to have eight to ten GRUs under its purview and consists of a Regulatory, Supervisory, and Support Structure and a Working Structure. Each village will receive its own financial allocation through Central Government, Provincial Councils and Provincial Administrative Bodies.

Objectives of the GRUs are;

- 1) To serve as an institutional mechanism within a predefined locality with the (active and meaningful) participation of local community to contribute to sustainable socio–economic and cultural development of the country;
- 2) To work towards the creation of a sustainable society characterized by a well conserved environment and natural resources, healthy public, learned community, inclusive caring and fair society, economic prosperity, social harmony and sustainable production, services and consumption; and
- 3) To create a platform which enables interaction between the community and the state and voicing community concerns and priorities related to the development of the locality and create a mutually beneficial feedback mechanism.

Cabinet of Ministers has decided to obtain the views of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management in Parliament for the concept, prior to grant approval. Accordingly, the Concept Note was submitted to the Sectoral Oversight Committee and the views of the Sectoral Oversight Committee are awaited.

2.6. Establishment of Public Service Delivery Authority (PSDA)

A multidisciplinary study group has been appointed to study and analyze the establishment of an Authority to be called as “Public Service Delivery Authority” to ensure that the services provided to the general public by the Public Service including, the Provincial Public Service and Institutions.

Accordingly, based on the findings of this study group, a committee headed by the Solicitor General has been appointed to draft a Bill for the establishment of aforesaid Authority. This committee was comprised of Legal Draftsman, Attorney General, Senior Public Officers representing Presidential Secretariat and several Ministries, University Academics, Retired Public Officials and Representatives of the private sector.

Objectives of the Authority;

- 1) To ensure the people –centered public service;
- 2) To guide the Public Service and state institutions in order to provide services to the general public with an efficient, utmost quality and high standard which satisfies people’s needs;
- 3) To motivate staff of the state sector, evaluate their performance and train them;
- 4) To establish appropriate standards based on the needs identified from time to time and to restructure and operate state institutions to align with it;
- 5) To make available equitable access to all public services and taking action regarding the complaints and grievances of recipients of services; and
- 6) To implement citizen charters for an efficient and friendly service

Cabinet of Ministers has granted its approval to obtain the views of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management in Parliament. The Sectoral Oversight Committee had several meetings with members of the committee to draft the bill, and have decided to send their views by January 2017 to the Cabinet.

2.7. Recommencement of Port City Development Project

Port City Development Project has been initiated in the year of 2014, to reclaim the sea bed and develop a land area with luxury hotels and apartment complexes, shopping malls, spaces for modern offices for the corporate sector, leisure and recreational activities such as yacht marinas, formula tracks etc. GoSL has entered into an agreement with China Communication and Construction Company Limited, China to implement the above project.

In March 2015, after the formation of the new Government headed by H E the President, Maithripala Sirisena, the construction work of Port City was suspended pending the completion of a supplementary Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

The Cabinet appointed a Committee of Secretaries chaired by Secretary to the Prime Minister to hold discussions with a view of resolving issues pertaining to Port City Project. The Committee had several discussions with the Chinese Company and decided to review the Agreements between GoSL and the Company as the original agreements were unfavorable to Sri Lanka.

After negotiations with both parties and discussions held at official level, it also recommended to revise the Project Agreements. As per the recommendations made by the Committee of Secretaries, the Cabinet of Ministers amended its decision on 9th March, 2016 to permit the resumption of the construction work upon the completion of the supplementary EIA and the issuance of a development permit.

The Committee of Secretaries is currently in the process of negotiation of new terms for the project and recommended to amend the GoSL Agreement and Concession Agreement as the original agreements were unfavorable to Sri Lanka.

In addition, the Project Company has agreed to contribute towards compensation payable to affected fisherman and attend to other social costs if necessary. Under the previous agreement, the cost of compensating the fisherman was sole responsibility of the GoSL.

The Project Company has agreed to renegotiate with the GoSL, that the reclaimed land be used for a financial city with a separate jurisdiction. The status of the Financial City and the incorporation of the Financial City Corporation will be done by a separate Act of Parliament

The Committee of Secretaries currently working on monitoring the Port City Project while guiding the relevant parties who are dealing with legal framework, business plan and investment plan for the proposed Financial City Project.

A Steering Committee was appointed with the view of resolving strategic issues pertaining to the implementation of project. Joint Working Groups are appointed under this committee, with the representation of relevant parties of various fields since the issues are falling under different fields.

2.8. Revoking EU- Fishing Ban

The European Commission, in October, 2014, proposed to ban Sri Lanka seafood exports, due to the Government's failure to demonstrate that it sufficiently addressed Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing. The ban went into effect from 13th January, 2015. Sri Lanka is the second largest exporter of fresh and chilled swordfish and tuna to the EU, with imports of €74m in 2013. Sri Lanka has lost a market of approximately \$100m through the ban.

In this backdrop, Hon. Prime Minister appointed a Steering Committee to follow up the revoking of the formal listing of Sri Lanka as a non-cooperating country under the EU- IUU fishing regulation, chaired by Secretary to the Prime Minister and comprising representatives of Ministry of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of Commerce, Attorney General's Department, and Seafood Exporters' Associations. This crucial committee comprised all the related stakeholders.

Establishment of the Vessel Monitoring Centre, recruitment and training of new personal, introduction of necessary regulations and sanctions, additional budget allocations, and awareness programs were included in the significant tasks completed within last year under the guidance and supervision of the Steering Committee.

The steering committee regularly monitors the progress of adopted road map to revoke the ban and reported to the Cabinet of Ministers through the Cabinet Committee on Economic Management.

In the meantime, the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) of the European Commission was actively engaged in their observations with regard to the progress made from time to time and finally ended in a delegation visit in November, 2015 to ensure that the management measures are actually in place.

The discussion went on for few more months and finally the conclusive discussion between the Fisheries Authorities and DG MARE took place on 6th April, 2016 where DG MARE accepted that Sri Lanka has comprehensive and robust management systems for fisheries Industry and to combat IUU fishing.

European Commission concluded, on the basis of the above, that the actions undertaken by Sri Lanka in the light of its duties as flag State are sufficient to comply with Articles 94, 117 and

118 of United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and Articles 18, 19, 20 and 23 of United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement. The Commission concluded that the elements put forward by Sri Lanka demonstrate that the situation which warranted the listing of Sri Lanka has been rectified and that Sri Lanka has taken concrete measures capable of achieving a lasting improvement of the situation.

With effect from 21st June, 2016, Sri Lanka was removed from the list of non-cooperating third countries of IUU fishing as it has significantly improved its national fisheries governance.

The exports of fishery products caught by Sri Lankan vessels are again allowed in the market of the European Union.

With the removal of the ban, Sri Lanka will be able to bring its lucrative sea food export industry back in the business, which is the ninth largest export sector, capable of generating an export income close to \$100 Million per annum in Europe alone and of providing sustainable livelihood for nearly 2.6 million people in Sri Lanka.

2.9. Regaining GSP+

Following the conclusion of the conflict in May, 2009, Sri Lanka has made steady progress in restoring normalcy in the country and establishing an environment in which the rights and development of Sri Lanka are secured. However, the country continued to face significant challenges in terms of the protection and promotion of human rights during the aftermath of the war.

On 17th June, 2010, the European Commission wrote to the then Minister of External Affairs on the dialogue between the European Commission and Sri Lanka on the human rights situation in Sri Lanka. The annex to this letter included fifteen outstanding issues that Sri Lanka should address to maintain eligibility for GSP+ benefits.

Sri Lanka's application for the GSP+ facility was submitted to the European Commission on 29th June, 2016. After receiving the application on 12th July, 2016, the European Commission requested Sri Lanka to submit substantive information to demonstrate that Sri Lanka has actually taken the required action to fulfil its commitments as agreed in the Application under 15 issues. Under the provisions of the delegated acts, the European Commission has up to 6 months from 12th July, 2016 to 12th January, 2017 to analyze the application and to propose the granting of the GSP+ to Sri Lanka, if the criteria are met. The European Commission has requested that an update of 58 Action Points with indicative timelines be provided by 30th September, 2016. The updated 58 Action Points and the update to the Response on 15 issues following Hon. Prime Minister's meeting held on 21st September, 2016 and reviewed by Prime Minister's Office has sent. Several progress review meetings on regaining GSP+ were chaired by Secretary to the Prime Minister with the relevant stakeholders. Hon. Prime Minister will meet the EU Leaders and Ambassadors from 17th to 20th October, 2016 in Brussels for further discussions.

The present Government has meanwhile made a policy decision to strengthen its engagement with the United Nations and other multilateral bodies, including UN treaty bodies. This policy decision also characterizes Sri Lanka's constructive engagement with the European Union, and accordingly the establishment of the EU-Sri Lanka Working Group on Governance, the Rule of Law and Human Rights.

Sri Lanka's application to obtain GSP+ benefits is therefore an articulation of the government's deep commitment to strengthening its ties with the EU and mutually advancing the protection, promotion and fulfilment of good governance, the rule of law and human rights in Sri Lanka.

2.10. Establishing Japan - Sri Lanka Joint Comprehensive Partnership Secretariat (JCPS) in Colombo and Tokyo

The declaration of Joint Comprehensive Partnership was agreed upon by the Governments of Japan (GoJ) and of Sri Lanka (GoSL) during the Prime Minister's official working visit to Japan on October, 2015. It is one of the series of interlocking international agreements that the GoSL is entering into to further the country's 60 months National Development Program.

Advanced Agriculture, Science and technology for Industry, Quality Infrastructure and Regional Development, Education and Human Resource Development and Civil Safety and Security are identified as the focal areas of Sri Lanka's national development thrust and this would be articulated in the JCPS.

It is anticipated to achieve the following primary objectives through the proposed JCPS and the secretariats will work towards coordinating the activities both countries to facilitate speedy implementation through the relevant agencies of government.

- 1) Enable equitable and inclusive development
- 2) Integrate Sri Lanka's economic activities into the global value chain
- 3) Foster excellence in Science and Technology
- 4) Promote high technology industries in Sri Lanka
- 5) Support E-Government initiatives by focusing on outcome based human resources development

In order to achieve the objectives of the JCP an institutional arrangement within the Government of Sri Lanka in the Prime Minister's Office for the Sri Lankan counterpart working with both Japan (GoSL's JCP Secretariat in Tokyo) and Sri Lanka (GoSL's JCP Secretariat in Colombo) was established. GoSL's JCP Secretariat in Tokyo is located in the Sri Lanka Embassy in Tokyo and the required staff were recruited for its functions. The Secretariat engaged in dialogues and reached an agreement on specific types of initiatives that should be handled by the JCP Secretariats.

2.11. Policy Development Office

The Policy Development Office has been established at the Prime Minister's Office, to develop coherent, acceptable and equitable policies towards achieving Sri Lanka's expansion goals; it is set up with an objective of contributing towards the acceleration of the state mechanisms in developing Sri Lanka efficiently, and targets achieving the following goals;

- 1) Planning and formulation of national policies
- 2) Co-ordination of implementing policies
- 3) Review and evaluation of policies
- 4) Review the development of external sectors and its impact on Sri Lanka

The Policy Development Office has issued guidelines regarding the policies procedures related to the following fields;

- (i) Corporate Legal Reforms in Corporate Bankruptcy Laws
- (ii) Investment (Special Provisions) Act
- (iii) Committee on Vocational & Technical Training

This Committee consists of Sub-committees such as, Child Care, Elder Care, Education Reforms, Tourism, Construction, Light Engineering, Free Trade Zones, Data, Publicity, Exit survey/ Labour demand survey, Women, Differently abled people, Data bank from school to work transition

- (iv) National Civil Aviation Policy
- (v) Taxation on Alcohol
- (vi) Solar Power
- (vii) Land Acquisition
- (viii) Millennium Challenge Corporation
- (ix) Trade Policy
- (x) Tourism – Over visitation
- (xi) Health Insurance Scheme
- (xii) Online Information Portal – Village Fair
- (xiii) Formulating a Soft Loan Scheme for the “Battle for Solar Power” Programme conducted by the Ministry of Power and Renewable Energy
- (xiv) Micro Finance
- (xv) Safety Net review

2.12. Study Committee for Educational Reforms

The Government of Sri Lanka is pursuing a program of comprehensive reforms in order to transform the school education system within the next three years. These reforms aim at reaching global standards of education while making education the key driver of the national economic development.

The main areas of reforms are as follows,

Guaranteed 13 years of education

- To enable all students complete 13 years of education in a learning environment where education meets their aptitudes and expectations
- To lay the foundation for students to effectively choose and link with higher education, technical and vocational education, and the world of work
- To develop creative abilities of the students according to their talents so that they enrich their personality in order to fully integrate themselves with the dynamics of value creation in the economy

Establishment of School Boards

- To empower schools as primary units of management so that plans and decisions are made at service delivery level to use resources and implement education programs efficiently and effectively
- To increase participation of teachers, parents and community representatives in the process of decision making so that the uniqueness of local environment is recognized while enhancing the principle of democratic participation
- To obtain support of local community, to raise resource support, and ensure that the school continues to develop and support the objectives of Guaranteed Thirteen Years of Education

Establishment of Sri Lanka Education Inspectorate

- To undertake performance reviews of schools as an ongoing process by assessing, evaluating and making decisions about the achievement of planned targets
- To assist schools by such means as provisions of expertise and solution of issues inhibiting sound management
- To inform and educate the parents about their children's performance, and inform and educate community stakeholders about school performance

2.13. National Media Centre (NMC)

In the implementation process of state mechanism, it is the prime responsibility of the government to disseminate complete, authentic and correct official information to the general public which will ensure transparency and optimum implementation of good governance principles through obtaining public views.

In accordance with the Cabinet Decision the National Media Centre has been established under the purview of the Prime Minister's Office in order to empower Right to Information Act, to ensure strategic flow of information within the state structure and to obtain views and participation of the general public.

This center will consist of divisions dealing with Information Analysis, Media Monitoring, Information Grids and Co-ordination of information which will handle obtaining public views on policy compilation and provide government official information to the electronic and printed media and co-ordination of information.

The National Media Centre is established under a committee comprising with H.E the President, Hon. Prime Minister and Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media and it is functioning under a tripartite Governing Council which consists of a nominee of the Secretary to the President, nominee of the Secretary to the Prime Minister and Director General of the Department of the Information.

Mr. Imthiaz Bakeer Marker has been appointed as the Chairman who along with a Chief Executive Officer will be in charge of operations while there will be a number of trained staff. Currently National Media Centre which is located at the Visumpaya Premises is operational with a number of staff appointed as Information Officers, Web Writers and Media Investigation Assistants. Three directors have been appointed as heads to monitor and evaluate the overall operation. The appointed staff has received training for a period of two weeks by experts in their related fields and was assigned duties on roaster basis, assuring the 24/7 operation.

The provisions required for the operations of National Media Centre is allocated by the Prime Minister's Office as a separate project thereof.

Currently, the National Media Centre is playing a significant role in conducting various researches in the current political landscape and carrying out daily media monitoring on television, radio, newspapers and social media.

03. Promotion of International Co-operation

3.1. Prime Minister's Official Overseas Visits

The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe has made several visits overseas in 2016 with the aim of strengthening cordial relations between Sri Lanka and the countries visited. He has also been invited to attend globally recognized events by highly respected international organizations concerning economic, social, political and cultural affairs.

The Hon. Prime Minister's visits have been instrumental in enhancing Sri Lanka's image in the eyes of the international community.

3.1.1. Official Visit to Switzerland - World Economic Forum

In responding to the invitation extended to Sri Lanka for the first time to participate, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe attended at the Annual World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, which was held from 19th to 24th January, 2016.

The Prime Minister held many rounds of talks with world leaders, heads of various economic associations and representatives of many business organizations. His presence was instrumental in ensuring that agreements were reached to extend assistance to Sri Lanka in the following spheres, which further contributed towards consolidating the Sri Lankan economy considerably.

- 1) Assistance to the fisheries industry in Sri Lanka as agreed at the discussion held with Hon. Stefan Löfven, Prime Minister of Sweden
- 2) Development of eight harbours of Dutch heritage in Sri Lanka in addition to the Galle Harbour, with the objective of further strengthening the long and historical relations between the two countries
- 3) Assistance for the improvement in energy efficiency, usage of solar power systems and deployment of geo-localized technology for remote areas as agreed at the discussion held with Mr. Eric Rondolat, Global CEO of the Philips Lighting Solutions of the Netherlands
- 4) Improvement of service delivery in the public sector and disbursement of social security benefits were discussed with Mr. Kevin Sneader, Asia Chairman of McKinsey & Company



3.1.2. Official Visit to South Korea - Rotary International Convention

The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe participated in the 107th. Rotary International Convention held under the theme “Present Success and Development of South Korea as a highly developed nation in the field of Information Technology and culture- wise as a historically integrated nation” with the aim of obtaining Korean support towards Sri Lanka. This was held during 29th May to 01st June 2016 in Seoul, South Korea.

The Keynote address was delivered by Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe at this Forum which was attended by over 50,000 of Rotary Members representing 160 countries. H E Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary General of United Nations and Hon. Hwang Kyo-ahn, Prime Minister of South Korea were special invitees at the Forum. This visit was recognized as an excellent opportunity for Sri Lanka to generate awareness of economic, social, cultural, political, educational and technical aspirations.



3.1.3. Official Visit to Singapore

The delegation headed by the Prime Minister, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe undertook an official visit to Singapore from 17th to 19th July, 2016. During this visit, the Hon. Prime Minister held discussions Singaporean officials including Hon. Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of Singapore, Minister of Communication & Information and High Commissioners of both countries. These discussions focused on initiatives towards harnessing the developmental potential of Sri Lanka.

It was agreed during this visit to extend assistance for the following activities in order to strengthen the bilateral relations between the two countries.

- 1) Improvement the quality of The Sri Lanka Administrative Service in collaboration with Civil Service College of Singapore
- 2) Further expansion of training programmes presently being implemented between the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) and Civil Service College of Singapore and widening of inter-relations between Sri Lanka Judges Institute and Civil Service College of Singapore
- 3) Drawing on the experience in development activities concerning the Singapore river, towards planning the development activities around Beira Lake and adjacent areas
- 4) Working towards attracting investors from Singapore
- 5) Creation of new trade agreement with the Singaporean Government
- 6) Implementation of the following programmes aimed at development activities in economic, social and technological sectors of Sri Lanka
 - Entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on co-operation in the fields of Technical & Vocational Education and Training (TVET) with Information Technology and Educational Services Institute (ITEES) in Singapore to conduct training programmes with effect from August, 2016 for skill development of Sri Lankan Youth who complete their formal school education
 - Obtaining assistance from Singapore towards the establishment of Training Institutes in Information Technology (IT) and Hospitality Sectors in Sri Lanka.

- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with International Enterprise Board of Singapore for the Project of Megapolis Development in North Western Province
- Conducting two Leadership Training Programmes for Sri Lankan officers at a Senior and Medium level
- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Civil Service College (CSC) of Singapore to seek Singapore's assistance for public service training and to improve service standards and expansion of the Sri Lankan Public Service
- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on co-operation in cultural affairs with the Ministry of Cultural, Community and Youth Affairs of Singapore to facilitate cultural exchange processes between the two countries



3.1.4. Official Visit to Indonesia – The 12th World Islamic Economic Forum (WIEF)

The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe undertook an official visit to Indonesia during 31st July to 03rd August, 2016 to attend the 12th World Islamic Economic Forum (WIEF) held in Jakarta, Indonesia under the theme of “Task of Private Sector for Regional Co-operation.”

In this instance, Sri Lankan Prime Minister had the opportunity to hold bilateral discussions with the Indonesian President, H E Joko Widodo, Minister of Finance, Hon. Sri Mulyani Indrawati and Minister of Maritime Affairs, Hon. Luhooth Binsar Janjaithan who were among the participants at the forum.

A series of matters pertaining to accelerated development process presently undertaken by the Government of Sri Lanka was taken up for discussion. It was agreed to compile a strategy to create co-operation mechanisms between Trade Chambers of Indonesia and Sri Lanka, to widen investment opportunities for Indonesian and as well as Sri Lankan investors and to further promote Sri Lankan investments which are already in existence in the plantation field including tea in Indonesia.



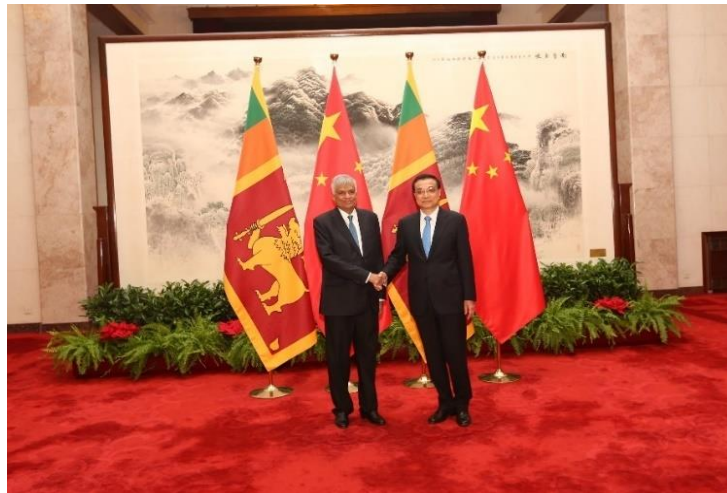
3.1.5. Official Visit to China

A Sri Lankan delegation led by the Prime Minister, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe undertook an official visit to China from 13th to 17th August, 2016. The Sri Lankan delegation had the opportunity to engage in observational visits to several sites such as Industrial Zones, Container Terminals, Technological Parks, Financial Centers and Creative Production Sites which are considered focal points in economic development.

In this instance, views were exchanged between Chinese Government Officials and Major Scale Investors as to how the bilateral relations between Sri Lanka and China could be further strengthened.

Further, it was agreed to enter into new Memoranda of Understanding through extending assistance for the following activities, paving way for Sri Lanka to reap maximum benefits.

- 1) Port City Development Project, Hambantota Port, Megapolis Project and Industrial Development
- 2) Mobile Vehicle Project for investigating Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)
- 3) Establishment of an Integrated Research and Development Centre for safe-water supply technology
- 4) Providing Sri Lanka with 2000 training opportunities during the next five years to strengthen co-operation in the field of Vocational Education
- 5) Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) of;
 - Treaty between China and Sri Lanka on Extradition
 - Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Comprehensive Implementation of Investment and Economic & Technical Co-operation
 - Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Preferential Buyer Credit Loan Agreement for the construction of extension of Southern Expressway
 - Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Co-operation between China Development Bank and Central Bank of Sri Lanka
 - Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the National Natural Science Foundation and the National Science Foundation in Sri Lanka



3.1.6. Official Visit to Singapore - Indian Ocean Conference

The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, accepted the invitation extended to him to deliver the inaugural speech at the Indian Ocean Conference organized by the Indian Foundation and held at the Shangrila Hotel in Singapore on 1st and 2nd of September, 2016 with the participation of foremost states in the Indian Ocean Region.

Former President of Maldives, H E Mayumi Abdul Gayoom, Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister, Hon. Dato Seri Acharya Ahamed Sahid Hammid were among the distinguished gathering of politicians, scholars and official.

Sri Lanka Institute of Policy Studies, Institute of International Strategies of Bangladesh and S. Rajaratnam Institute for International Studies in Singapore were represented at this symposium, which was held with a main objective of discussing security, economic, cultural and environmental problems affecting Indian Ocean.

Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, the Sri Lankan Prime Minister engaged in deliberations at the symposium and had several discussions with high-level foreign delegates on Development Projects in Sri Lanka, Resettlement in Northern and Eastern Provinces, Possibility of building up of a close co-operation with South Indian Provincial States as well as the Anticipated Assistance from Millennium Development Co-operation Organization.



3.1.7. Official Visit to New Zealand

In responding to the invitation of the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka visited New Zealand from 1st to 03rd October, 2016. During the visit, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe addressed the Parliament of New Zealand and held several discussions with Prime Minister Rt. Hon. John Key and Ministers who are responsible for the key areas such as Finance, Economic development, Trade etc, and representatives of many business organizations as well.

During the visit Prime Ministers of both countries discussed about opening of diplomatic missions in Colombo and New Zealand in order to strengthen the relationship between countries of the Pacific Island and a part of African region. Mix member representation system of Parliament and electoral system which are practicing in New Zealand were also reviewed during the discussions.

In order to strengthen the bilateral relations between two countries it was agreed to provide assistance in following areas;

- 1) IT support to develop Dairy Industry
- 2) Share knowledge regarding fish quota management system to develop fisheries
- 3) Restructuring of Treasury and reforms in the fields of Economy, Finance and Public Enterprises
- 4) High-Tech Agriculture and training facilities to improve Agriculture Sector



3.1.8. Official Visit to New Delhi, India

A Sri Lankan delegation led by the Prime Minister, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe undertook an official visit to India from 04th to 06th October, 2016. During this visit, the Prime Minister held discussions with H.E. the President, Hon. Prime Minister of India and several Ministers.

These discussions mainly focused on issues related to fishing rights, housing projects assisted by India, Economic & Technology Cooperation Agreement (ECTA), Road Development in North, generating clean powers and building a refinery in Trincomalee etc.

During the visit, it was agreed to encourage Indian investors to invest in Sri Lanka, and carry out Jaffna- Colombo, Mannar-Trincomalee and Dambulla – Trincomalee road development projects as Government to Government Projects.



3.1.9. Official Visit to Brussels, Belgium

The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe undertook an official visit to Belgium from 16th to 21st October, 2016. During this visit Hon. Prime Minister met President of Belgium Hon. Charles Michel, His Royal Prince Laurent, President of European Parliament, officials of the European Commission and the European Union.

The main objective of this visit was to regain GSP + facility for Sri Lanka. The discussions mainly focused on new development plans of Sri Lanka and regaining GSP + facility. High level officials of the European Union and European Commission showed positive response on the request made by the Hon. Prime Minister regarding GSP +.



3.2. Meetings with Diplomats and Foreign Dignitaries by the Hon. Prime Minister

No.	Date	Name of Visiting Dignitary
01	04.01.2016	Right Honourable Tony Blair, Former Prime Minister of United Kingdom
02	05.01.2016	H E Nawaz Sharif, Prime Minister of Pakistan
03	05.01.2016	Mr. George Soros, US Investor
04	07.01.2016	Hon. Børge Brende, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway
05	07.01.2016	Mr. Ricardo Housman, Professor of the Practice of Economic Development at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University & Prof Josef Stiglitz, American Economist and Professor of the Columbia University
06	12.01.2016	H E Dr. S Jaishankar, Foreign Secretary of India
07	14.01.2016	Right Honourable Hugo Swire, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, United Kingdom
08	18.01.2016	Dr. Lee Duk - Hoon, Chairman and the President of the Exim Bank of Korea
09	28.01.2016	Sir Lynton Crosby, Australian Political Strategist
10	05.02.2016	Hon. Sushma Swaraj, Minister of External Affairs and Overseas Indian Affairs
11	05.02.2016	IMF delegation
12	08.02.2016	Hon. Geoffrey Van- Orden, Chairman of the Friends of Sri Lanka & Mr. Morten Messerschmidt
13	09.02.2016	H E Zeid Raad Al Hussain, United Nation High Commissioner for Human Rights
14	23.02.2016	Mr. Takehiko Nakao, President of Asian Development Bank
15	24.02.2016	Right Honourable John Key, Prime Minister of New Zealand

No.	Date	Name of Visiting Dignitary
16	25.02.2016	Hon. Chitchian Hamid, Minister of Energy of the Islamic Republic of Iran
17	01.03.2016	Mr. Patrick F Kennedy, Under Secretary of USA
18	08.03.2016	H E Mamnoon Hussain, President of Pakistan
19	09.03.2016	Mr. Beth Tritter, Vice President of Millennium Challenge Co-operation
20	10.03.2016	H E Somkid Jatusripitak, Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand
21	16.03.2016	Mr. Nevan Mimica, EU Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development and the delegation
22	22.04.2016	H E Arjun B Thapa, Secretary General of SAARC
23	25.04.2016	H E Margot Wallstrom, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sweden
24	27.04.2016	General Sommai Kaotira, Chief of Defence Forces of Thailand
25	04.05.2016	H E Dunya Maumoon, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Maldives
26	16.05.2016	Mr. Uwe Beckmeyer, Parliamentary State Secretary for Economic Affairs & Energy, Germany
27	18.05.2016	Mr. Hiroto Izumi, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Japan
28	18.05.2016	Hon. Richard Armitage, former US Deputy Secretary of State
29	19.05.2016	Visit of Executive Directors of World Bank
30	27.05.2016	Hon. Tun Musa Hitam, Special Envoy of Malaysia
31	06.06.2016	Sir Simon McDonald, Head of British Diplomatic Service
32	15.06.2016	Hon. Mevlu tÇavusoglu, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey
33	09.07.2016	Hon. Wang Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of China
34	12.07.2016	H E Ayatollah Seyyed Hassan Khomeini, Grandson of the Founder of Islamic Republic of Iran and the prominent Islamic Cleric
35	13.07.2016	Ms. Nisha Biswal, US Assistant Secretary of State

No.	Date	Name of Visiting Dignitary
36	21.07.2016	Dr. Philipp Rosler & Mr. Viraj Mehta, Officials of the World Economic Foru
37	22.07.2016	Hon. Ahmad Zahid Bin Hamidi, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia
38	27.07.2016	Hon. Hirofumi Katase, Vice Minister of International Affairs in Japan
39	28.07.2016	Hon. Stephane Dion, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada
40	08.08.2016	Air Chief Marshal Sohail Aman, Chief of Air Staff of Pakistan
41	12.08.2016	Hon. Erna Solberg, Prime Minister of Norway
42	31.08.2016	H E Ban Ki Moon, Secretary General of UN
43	26.09.2016	Hon. Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry of India
44	07.10.2016	Hon. (Mrs.) Christa Markwalder, Speaker of the National Council of the Federal Assembly of Switzerland
45	10.10.2016	Mr. Hiroto Izumi, Special Advisor to Japanese Prime Minister
46	12.10.2016	Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Under Secretary General of the UN and Executive Secretary of ESCAP
47	12.10.2016	Hon. Peter Szijjarto, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary
48	23.10.2016	HE (Dr.) S Jaishankar, Foreign Secretary of India
49	26.10.2016	Ms. Carrie Hessler-Radelet, Director of the Peace Corps of USA
50	31.10.2016	EU Parliamentary Delegation headed by Ms. Jean Lambert
51	27.11.2016	Admiral Harry B Harris, Commander of the US Pacific Command
52	12.12.2016	HE Emomali Rahmon, President of Tajikistan

04. National Reconciliation, Social Services and Religious Affairs

4.1. National Reconciliation

In 2009, Sri Lanka was successfully able to conclude the ruthless civil war that commenced in 1983. However, as Sri Lankans, we have not succeeded in achieving the true spirit of reconciliation up to now. This Government has a mandate to put in place Reconciliation Mechanism within the local legislative framework towards true reconciliation with all ethnic and religious communities in the country.

The new Government has taken an initiative towards the sustenance of an equal society in which all Sri Lankans, irrespective of their ethnicity or religious convictions can live in unity. It has also displayed a commitment to encourage inter-religious harmony by celebrating significant religious festivals of all religions under the patronage of Hon. Prime Minister.

Accordingly, Colombo Navam Maha Pageant, “Buddha Rashmi” National Vesak Festival held in collaboration with Gangarama Temple, Hunupitiya, Colombo in commemoration of Vesak Full Moon Day and Ifthar festival celebrated in a grand scale by Muslims was held on 30th June, 2016 at the Temple Trees under the aegis of the Office of the Prime Minister and were concluded in a very satisfactory manner.

As agreed by the Prime Minister during an official visit to Jaffna, a 26 seater bus was gifted to the Hartley College, in collaboration with the Department of Education while a National Centre for Women Headed Household was established in Kilinochchi in collaboration with the Ministry of Women’s Affairs.



4.1.1. Secretariat for Coordinating the Reconciliation Mechanisms (SCRM)

The SCRM was established, as proposed by the Prime Minister, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe and was approved by the Cabinet of Ministers at the Cabinet Meeting held on the 16th December, 2015.

The functions of the SCRM are as follows;

- 1) Coordination of national level discourses on reconciliation mechanisms
- 2) Development of a plan and a timeline to establish Office on Missing Persons, Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Office on Reparations, Special Judiciary, and other relevant reconciliation Mechanisms
- 3) Liaising with both national and international institutions, including the Sri Lanka Human Rights Commission and United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- 4) Follow-up of the progress and coordination of implementing recommendations stipulated in the reports of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC) and OHCHR
- 5) Coordination of requirements related to strengthening the rule of law, human rights, and administrative and judicial reforms

The SCRM launched a Consultations Website (www.scrm.gov.lk) in Jaffna and established an Office of Missing Persons. Basic work for the formation of the Office of Missing Persons (OMP) was done during the year of review including drafting a legislation on Office on missing persons. The same legislation, Office of Missing persons (Establishment, Administration and Discharge of Functions). Act No.14 of 2016 was approved by the Parliament and budget requirement for OMP for the year 2017 was finalized and submitted.

A Consultation Task Force (CTF) for Reconciliation was appointed by the Hon. Prime Minister under the SCRM.

During the year 2016, several programs were carried out to educate, and obtain the views of the general public and the civil society and coordinating with relevant Ministries, Departments

and District level officials. The SCRM had discussions with Several foreign dignitaries who visited Sri Lanka and resident Ambassadors of Japan, Australia and Belgium and Heads of International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Office of UN resident coordinator on Transitional Justice Mechanism and possible assistance from them.

In coordination of UN Resident coordinator, a Military Dialogue was held at Colombo, Galle and Jaffna to educate the members of the armed forces on the ongoing reconciliation process. This dialogue was attended by senior officials of the Ministry of Defence and the Tri Forces.

An open dialogue program was held in Colombo with the assistance of the Ministries of Hindu and Muslim Religious Affairs with interfaith groups.

In order to carry out these functions, necessary staff members have been appointed according to the cadre provisions.

4.1.2. Public Representations Committee on Constitutional Reforms (PRCCR)

According to the Cabinet Decision dated 16th December, 2015, a committee has been appointed for Public Representations on Constitutional Reforms to ascertain the views of the Public on the Constitutional Reforms and to submit the report to the Constitutional Assembly with the recommendations of the committee.

This committee was chaired by Mr. Lal Wijenayake, Senior Attorney- at –Law including the multi-disciplinary group of members; Former Members of Parliament/ Provincial Councils, University Academics, Retired Senior Public Officials, Senior Lawyers, Civil Society Activist and Political Activists.

The committee has been held public sittings in all the 25 Districts while 2 days for each Districts and 8 days for Colombo. The public was invited to make their representations in verbally and or writing on Constitutional Reforms in respect of 20 subjects which were published namely:

- 1) Nature of the State
- 2) Form of government (Presidential/ Parliamentary)
- 3) Basic structure of the Constitution
- 4) Citizenship, Religion, Fundamental Rights and Duties, Language Rights, Group Rights and directive principles on State policy
- 5) Legislature (Unicameral/ Bicameral)
- 6) Supremacy of Constitution or Parliament
- 7) Separation of powers (Legislative, Executive, and Judiciary powers)
- 8) Independence of the Judiciary and the court structure
- 9) Constitutional court
- 10) Power sharing, devolution and Local Government
- 11) Sharing of power at the center
- 12) Constitutional council and independent commissions
- 13) Public Service
- 14) Electoral reforms
- 15) Judicial review of legislation
- 16) Powers of President under Parliamentary system
- 17) Election of President under Parliamentary system

- 18) Public security
- 19) Finance
- 20) Any other issues

Over 2,216 persons came forward to present their views to the Committee. They represented civil society organizations, trade unions, professional bodies and independence committees. In addition to that, the Committee received over 3000 written representations including those from religious leaders, farmers, academics, professionals and students.

After analyzing all representations, the Committee submitted the report in all three languages to the Parliament. The report was made available to the university libraries, public libraries and heads of institutions, Judges of Supreme Court and Appeal Court, Professional Associations etc.



4.2. Social Services

Under the leadership and guidance of the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, the Prime Minister's Office has conducted the following social welfare activities in 2016.

4.2.1. Sinhala and Hindu New Year Festival

Organized every year by the Welfare Society of the Prime Minister's Office, the Sinhala & Hindu New Year Festival was held on 25th April 2016, at the grounds of the Police Field Force Headquarters. The Prime Minister, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe was the Chief Guest at this event, at which about 600 people, including members of the staff and their families, participated. Many activities for both individual and group categories were held with an objective of improving skills, inter-personal relationships and building team work of the members.



4.2.2. Blood Donation

A blood donation programme was held by the Prime Minister's Office in collaboration with National Blood Transfusion Service on 26th April, 2016 at the Prime Minister's Office. About 100 officers of Prime Minister's Office donated blood for this worthy cause.

4.2.3. Renovation of Elders Home at Meerigama

The Prime Minister's Office organized a rehabilitation program together with the Mayura Amman Welfare Association to house more elders at Seth Sevana – Elders Home of Department of Social Service at Meerigama. One ward for elderly ladies was fully renovated with floor tiles, new beds, mattresses, pillows and bed sheets. In addition, 100 fruit trees were planted while the Secretary to the Prime Minister opened the renovated ward on 7th May, 2016.



4.3. Religious Affairs

Since its inception, The Government has maintained a strong commitment towards ensuring religious harmony among Buddhist, Hindu, Islam and Christian followers, through the celebration of key religious festivals of importance. Under the aegis of the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, the following religious festivals were thus observed.

4.3.1. Colombo Navam Pageant

The Colombo Navam Maha Pageant - 2016 jointly organized by the Gangarama Temple, Hunupitiya and the Prime Minister's Office was conducted on the 21st and 22nd of February, 2016, in a grand manner, parading the streets.

The pageant held with the participation of around 75 elephants and tuskers included various and colourful acts of dancing falling under Up Country, Low Country and Sabaragamuwa artistic traditions. Around 7000 artists are believed to have participated in this event.

On 21th February, 2016, the inaugural day of the pageant, H E Maithripala Sirisena, the President of Sri Lanka graced the occasion when the Gold Casket containing Sacred Relics was ceremoniously placed in an enclosure securely mounted on the spectacularly caparisoned majestic tusker, signaling the beginning of the procession.

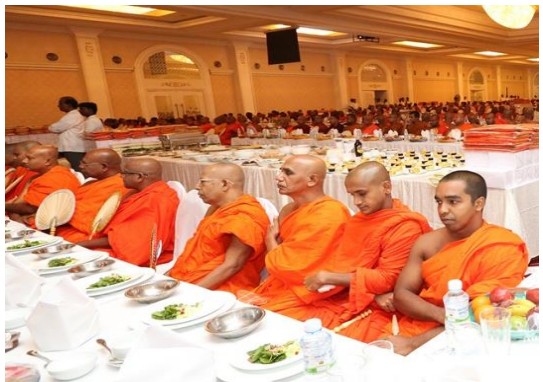
Similarly, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, the Prime Minister took part in the event conducted in the same manner on 22nd February, 2016.

Millions of devotees, including local and foreign tourists patronized this sacred event which was broadcast over a number of TV channels for the benefit of countless viewers. It also garnered considerable publicity locally and globally while giving the local artistes the opportunity to preserve their artistic traditions.

4.3.2. Offering Sanghagatha Dakshina to 1000 Rev. Buddhist Priests

A great Sanghagatha Dakshina organized by the Prime Minister's Office took place on 08th March, 2016 at the main conference hall of Temple Trees under the auspices of His Excellency Maithripala Sirisena, the President of Sri Lanka and the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe with the participation of a large and distinguished gathering.

Reverend Maha Sangha numbering over 1000, including Maha Nayakas, Anu Nayakas and Sanganayakas representing the three sectors were present at the alms giving who were offered with Ashta Parisskara and various other pirikaras including cash pirikaras at the conclusion of the alms giving.



4.3.3. Exposition of Sacred Relics of Lord Buddha & Items of Religious and Archaeological Importance

Sacred Relics of Lord Buddha which are deposited at the Thakshila Museum in Islamabad for public exhibition were brought down to Sri Lanka with due reverence and great honour, on 19th May, 2016 as concurred by Hon. Nawaz Sheriff, the Prime Minister of Pakistan with the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe during former's recent visit to Sri Lanka.

These sacred relics which were exposed for public exhibition at Temple Trees during the period from 21st to 25th of May, 2016 were later exhibited in various 17 Temples in many parts of the Island during the period 26th May to 25th June, 2016, millions of devotees were present at these venues to pay homage. At the end of the exposition, sacred relics were deposited in a Gold Casket by the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, and were officially handed over to the officials of the Thakshila Museum.

The Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Buddha Sasana, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Sri Lanka Police jointly organized the exhibition of Sacred Relics. Parallel to the exposition of Sacred Relic from Ghandara Desh, another exhibition was held at the main conference hall of Temple Trees during the period 21st to 25th of May at which various items of Buddhist archaeological importance including Sacred Neelagiri Relics were displayed.

This exhibition was declared open under the auspices of His Excellency Maithripala Sirisena, President of Sri Lanka and Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka on 21st May 2016, the Vesak Full Moon Poya Day.

The Department of Archaeology, Central Cultural Fund, National Museums, Department of Archives, Department of Buddhist Affairs, National Crafts Council, Board of Handicrafts (Laksala), National Design Centre, Department of Ayurveda, University of Aesthetics, Cultural Ministries of Provincial Councils namely, the Western, Central, Uva, Southern, North Western and Sabaragamuwa were instrumental in making available the many different exhibits.



4.3.4. Buddha Rashmi Vesak Festival

“Buddha Rashmi National Vesak Festival – 2016” jointly organized by the Gangarama Temple and the Prime Minister’s Office was held in grand manner from 21st to 25th of May, 2016 covering the area of Gangarama Temple, Temple Trees, Beira Circular Road and Beira Lake.

This event can be considered as a major religious and cultural festival. Those present were captivated to see special Buddhist artistic creations mounted on a floating stage in the Beira Lake, bakthi gee ceremonies, Buddhist ballets, street plays depicting various events in Buddhist jathaka stories, puppet shows, Vesak lanterns, Vesak pandols and various other artistic creations.

Millions of devotees, including local and foreign tourists were there to witness this event which was broadcast over a number of TV channels for the benefit of many viewers. This was a great opportunity for our own artists to showcase their artistic skills as well.



4.3.5. Ifthar Festival

The Ifthar Festival, celebrated by the Muslim community, was held on 30th June, 2016 with the participation of Maulavi (Chief Priest) and other 1500 devotees under the patronage of His Excellency Maithripala Sirisena, President of Sri Lanka and Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, at Temple Trees.



4.3.6. The annual Esala Maha Pagent of the Valukarama Temple, Kollupitiya

The annual Esala Maha Pagent of the Valukarama Temple, Kollupitiya was conducted on 13th October 2016, for 53rd time, which was organized by the Prime Minister's Office, with the objective of building national reconciliation through inter-religious harmony.

H E the President, Hon. Prime Minister, the Ministers and the Members of the Parliament took part to grace the occasion. The pageant held in a grand manner with the participation of numerous elephants and tuskars, included various and colourfull acts of dancing falling under up country, low country and Sabaragamuwa artistic traditions.

Many devotees including local and foreign tourist were present there to witness this event which was broadcasted over a number of TV channels for the benefit of countless viewers.



4.3.7. Deepawali Festival

This national festival has been celebrated on 29th October 2016 at Temple Trees under the leadership of HE the President and Hon. Prime Minister by the Ministry of Prison Reforms, Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Hindu Religious Affairs together with Prime Minister's Office. The purpose of Deepawali festival is the triumph of good over evil and light over darkness and coincides with the Hindu New Year.

Hindu Priests conducted pooja to the God Visnu and cultural events were presented by the school children at this occasion.



05. Redress for Public Complaints and Grievances

5.1. Referring Public Complaints and Grievances Received in the Prime Minister's Office to Relevant State Agencies and Follow Up Action

Members of the general public have sent in a considerable number of letters to the Hon. Prime Minister concerning issues that have remained unsolved for a significant period of time. A separate division has been established at the Prime Minister's Office with the objective of efficiently handling such complaints and recommending possible solutions.

As identified by the said division, public complaints / grievances can be categorized as follows;

- Land disputes
- Housing problems
- Issues relating to judgments
- Request for subsidies / public assistance
- Request for admission of children to schools
- Employment issues -
 - Applying for employment
 - Requests for reinstatement of service
 - Transfers
- Common facilities
 - Construction of roads and renovations
 - Request for obtaining pipe born water and electricity
- Irregularities
 - Complaints against Police
 - Corruption and fraud
 - Irregularities in the appointment of Heads of Institutions
- Acts of Political Revenge



A summary report on received letters and respondents during the period from 01.01.2016 to 31.12.2016 is as follows.

No.	Month	Total number of letters received for a month	Total number of letters replied for a month
01	January	4,144	3,718
02	February	6,903	6,768
03	March	5,360	5,024
04	April	2,860	2,674
05	May	2,971	2,080
06	June	3,323	2,885
07	July	3,343	2,627
08	August	3,674	2,869
09	September	3,419	3,006
10	October	5,326	4,973
11	November	3,648	3,123
12	December	3,844	3,564
	Total	48,815	43,311

With a view towards providing solutions, these are referred to the following institutions /officials by the Prime Minister's Office as speedily as possible.

- Secretaries to the Ministries
- District Secretaries
- Heads of Departments
- Heads of Corporations / Companies / Statutory Bodies
- Divisional Secretaries
- Heads of Local Government Authorities






5.2. Facilities Provided to Submit Public Complaints / Grievances via Official Website of the Prime Minister's Office.



රනිල් වික්‍රමසිංහ
ரணில் விக்கிரமசிங்க
Ranil Wickremesinghe

ශ්‍රී ලංකා අග්‍රාමාත්‍ය
இலங்கையின் பிரதம அமைச்சர்
Prime Minister of Sri Lanka

අග්‍රාමාත්‍ය කාර්යාලය
பிரதம அமைச்சர் அலுவலகம்
Prime Minister's Office



The Prime Minister's Office official website
of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Home Prime Minister PM Office Initiatives Temple Trees Special Events Downloads Vacancies Contact Us


Prime Minister's Office

58, Sir Earnest De Silva Mawatha, Colombo 07.

Submission of Public Grievances, Complaints and Comments.

Your feedback will help us to serve you better.

Location



06. Parliamentary and Legal Affairs

6.1. Parliamentary Affairs

A section for Parliamentary Affairs has been established in the Prime Minister's Office and this office has been assigned to perform the following tasks.

6.1.1. Cabinet Memoranda, Notes to the Cabinet and Furnishing Answers to Parliamentary Questions

- **Cabinet Memoranda and Notes to the Cabinet**

Action has been taken to submit 122 Cabinet Memoranda and 37 Notes to the Cabinet during the period 01st January, 2016 to 31st December in 2016. Action has also been taken to implement and monitor the decisions taken by the Cabinet and necessary follow up with regard to the implementation of said Cabinet decisions which would be put into action by Secretary to the Prime Minister.

- **Furnishing Answers to Parliamentary Questions**

Answers to around 66 questions from among those raised by the Hon. Members of the Parliament in the opposition as well in the Government within the above mentioned period, pertaining to the Ministries, Departments, Statutory Boards and Corporations falling within the purview of the President and the Prime Minister have been drafted by the Prime Minister. Answers to 30 oral questions raised with regard to the matters falling within the task of the Ministries of Mahaweli Development and Environment and Defence under the purview of His Excellency the President and answers to 36 questions with regard to the matters falling within the purview of the task of the Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs have also been drafted.

Further, answers to 39 questions referred to the Prime Minister under Parliament Standing Orders have been prepared. Answers are also provided for 04 questions that are being asked of the Prime Minister during the period allocated for raising questions from the Prime Minister, at the Parliamentary Meeting held on first Wednesday of every month with regard to the policy matters of national importance. Accordingly, necessary steps have been taken to prepare answers for 44 oral questions during this period.

6.1.2. Tabling of Parliamentary Reports

Necessary actions to table parliamentary reports pertaining to the subjects falling within the purview the President and the Prime Minister, especially Annual Reports, Statements of Accounts and Performance Reports are being taken by this office; 22 reports pertaining to the following have been tabled in the Parliament to date.

- **Annual Reports**

1. Defence Services Command and Staff College – 2010 and 2014
2. National Police Commission – 2013
3. Sri Lanka Human Rights Commission – 2012, 2013 and 2014
4. Ranaviru Seva Authority- 2012 and 2013
5. Finance Commission – 2014
6. National Education Commission- 2013
7. Public Service Commission – 2015
8. Central Environmental Authority – 2014
9. Administrative Appeals Tribunal – 2012, 2013 and 2014

- **Performance Reports and Statements of Accounts**

1. Sri Lanka Navy – 2014
2. Sri Lanka Air Force – 2014
3. Public Service Commission – 2015
4. Election Commission – 2015
5. Department of Coast Conservation and Coastal Resources Management

- **Other**

1. Recommendations of the Finance Commission for F/Y 2016 - 01
2. Administrative Report of the Department of Civil Security- 2014

6.2. Legal Affairs

This section handles the task of coordinating the process from preliminary compilation of the bills until they are approved as Acts in the Parliament concerning various subjects.

Accordingly, following tasks have been performed during the period from 01.01.2016 to 31.12.2016.

- Coordination of the process of enacting the bill pertaining to the establishment of the Office on Missing Persons (Establishment, Administration and Discharge of Functions) as an Act.
- Further this office is in the process of drafting new legislations and effecting timely amendments to the existing legislations pertaining to Development, Land Management, Foreign Exchange Management and Financial Management as well as the matters relevant to the task assigned to the Ministers and Deputy Ministers as follows,
 - 1) Bill of the Lands (Special Provisions) Act
 - 2) Bill of the State Land Bank Act
 - 3) Bill on International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance
 - 4) Foreign Exchange Bill
 - 5) National Audit Bill
 - 6) Development (Special Provisions) Bill
 - 7) Introduction of Capital Gains Tax (CGT) Regime
 - 8) Western Megapolis Region Development Bill
 - 9) Amendments to Energy Supply (Temporary Provisions) Act No. 2 of 2002
 - 10) Amendments to the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007
 - 11) Assignment of Functions to the Ministers and Ministers who are not Members of the Cabinet of Ministers (Consequential Provisions) Bill
 - 12) Transfer of Powers (Divisional Secretaries) (Special Provisions) Bill
 - 13) Investment (Special Provisions) Act.

In addition, the Prime Minister's Office handles submission of Resolutions to the Parliament and action has been taken during the period from 01.01.2016 to 31.12.2016 to submit and obtain approval for the following resolutions.

- 1) Criteria and Guidelines for Compliance by the Electronic and Printed Media during a period pertaining to holding an Election or a Referendum
- 2) Revision of Salary and Allowances of the Director General of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption
- 3) Emoluments and other Allowances being paid to Chairpersons and Members of Independent Commissions

Further, the division also handles coordination with the Attorney General's Department concerning legal consultations instituted in the Supreme Court where the Prime Minister is named as a respondent.

07. Development of Human Resources And Enhancement of Infrastructure Facilities

7.1. Development of Human Resources

With the aim of enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the Prime Minister's Office, the officials have been provided foreign and local training to augment their knowledge, skills and attitudes. Accordingly, such programmes undertaken from 01st January to 31th December, 2016 are as follows.

- **Local Training Programmes**

No	Courses	Training Institute	Study/ Training Period	Number of Participants
1	Workshop on Role & Responsibilities of Drivers & KKS	Skills Development Fund Ltd	06.02.2016	42
2	Practical Human Resource Management	RH Training & Development	19.02.2016	1
3	Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation	Sound Management in Studios & Public Address System	20.02.2016 08.05.2016 (20 Days Weekends)	1
4	Diploma in Diplomacy & World Affairs	Bandaranaike International Diplomatic Training Institute	01 Year	6
5	SLIDA Computer Driving License	SLIDA	14.03.2016 01.04.2016	1
6	General English	British Council	2016.07.19 2016.09.22 (50 Hours)	1
7	Digital Photography	Hegoda School of Photography	06 Months	1
8	Workshop on Losses, Loss Recoveries & Write Off	Skills Development Fund Ltd	28.07.2016 29.07.2016	1
9	Masters in Development Studies 2016/2017	University of Colombo	01 Year	1
10	Masters of Public Management 2015/2017	SLIDA	01 Year	2
11	Graphic Designing	Wijaya Graphics (Pvt) Ltd	06 Months	1

- **Foreign Training Programmes**

No.	Courses	Country	Training Period	Number of Participants
1	Public Governance & Administration	Singapore	17.01.2016 23.01.2016	1
2	Developing E-Government Strategies towards Public Sector Excellence	Qatar	24.01.2016 30.01.2016	3
3	Leading Economic Growth	USA	07.02.2016 12.02.2016	1
4	Strategic Analysis for International Participants 2016	Malaysia	19.07.2016 07.08.2016	1
5	Development Administration: Modernization & Transformation Programme	Malaysia	23.07.2016 01.08.2016	1
6	Seminar on Economic Development & Financial Management for Sri Lanka	China	17.08.2016 19.09.2016	7
7	Seminar on Trade & Investment for Officials from Developing Countries	China	25.08.2016 14.09.2016	2
8	Seminar on Certification & Accreditation Cooperation for the Countries along “One Belt & One Road” of 2016	China	09.09.2016 27.09.2016	1
9	Public Sector Leadership Programme	Singapore	25.09.2016 01.10.2016	2
10	National Government Administration for Senior Officials	Japan	10.10.2016 29.10.2016	1
11	Financial Services for China Aid Project	China	11.10.2016 24.10.2016	3
12	Seminar on China’s Development Practices for Developing Countries	China	13.10.2016 02.11.2016	2
13	Economic Globalization & China’s Manufacturing for Developing Countries	China	13.10.2016 02.11.2016	3
14	Seminar for Diplomats from South Asian Countries	China	02.11.2016 24.11.2016	2

7.2. Making use of Information & Communication Technology (ICT)

In conformity with the E-state policy, primary objective of the Information and Communication Technology Unit is to identify and take action with regard to ICT deficiencies and weaknesses in the Prime Minister's Office and fulfill ICT requirements for implementation of state policies and programmes.

- **Official website of the Office of the Prime Minister**

The official website of the Office of Prime Minister is continuously updated to disseminate timely information. In consideration of possible cyber-attacks, a web application fire wall has been installed recently towards consolidating on line security. Further, we are in contact with the Sri Lanka Computer Emergency Readiness Team (SLCERT) to identify deficiencies, if any and take immediate action to obtain required recommendations. The website is under full control of the ICT Unit.

- **Internal Mail Server of the Office of the Prime Minister**

Internal Mail Server used for internal e-mail service, purchased in 2008 was found to be inadequate for present day requirements. Therefore, a new server with a higher capacity and ability was purchased and installed, thereby making it possible to update software to suit the latest version. Further, a new spam firewall was established to remove spam e-mails.

Updating of the internal e-mail service has enabled more efficient and productive service.

- **IC Infrastructure Enhancement**

A new UPS with higher capacity has been established towards preventing hindrances caused by frequent electricity breakdowns.

Deficiencies in the network systems used in the Temple Trees premises and Flower Road premises have been identified and action is being taken under LGN 20 Project implemented by Information and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA) in order to create a more efficient network system with more facilities.

Action is being taken through ICTA to obtain a new software system with better facilities in order to following work flow management:

- 1) Meeting Organization and management
- 2) Visitor Management
- 3) Work assignments
- 4) Correspondence Management

- **Production of software for internal applications**

The ICT Unit is in the process of producing software required to facilitate internal establishment activities in the office of the Prime Minister. This will minimize expenditure involved in software while making version-updating possible. Accordingly, a document management system has been created and is effectively used for internal documentation purposes.

- Fulfillment of ICT requirements for implementation of state policies and programmes.
- ICT Unit intervenes in fulfilling ICT requirements for implementation of state policies and programmes. In addition, ICT Unit's assistance is extended for the following:
 - 1) Identification of ICT training requirements of the staff and afford requisite training.
 - 2) Updating implementation of organization's ICT working Plan
 - 3) Proper updating and maintaining of Service agreements pertaining to ICT
 - 4) Preparation of relevant specifications and submission of recommendations by participating in Technical Evaluation Committees (TEC) for making ICT purchases.

7.3. Management of Temple Trees Premises

- 1) Resume and completion of 90% of construction works of the 05 storied Administrative complex building
- 2) Completion of the Construction of 03 storied building to be used as a Mess for the staff of Prime Minister's Security Division and renovation of the utility rooms of women officers attached to the Prime Minister's Security Division.
- 3) Completion of construction of the expansion of 03 storied building adjoining to the main Administrative building.
- 4) Completion of the open stage to hold media discussions and meetings with media personnel with the Prime Minister.
- 5) Completion of renovation road works from the main entrance to the Temple trees Residence.
- 6) Implementation of Waste Management Programme with the collaboration of Ministry of Environment and Colombo Municipal Council.
- 7) Successfully held the 15 main functions and special events headed by H.E. the President and Hon. Prime Minister with the participation of other VVIPs at the Temple Trees Premises.
- 8) Successful coordination of special functions and national events organized by other Ministries and Institutions at the Main Function Hall of the Temple Trees.
- 9) Implementation of Inventory Data Base system for the Store Management of the Temple Trees and Establishment of a Digital Media unit for coordination of social media and web sites.

08. Financial Progress

8.1. Financial Progress

Financial provisions for the disbursement of the annual expenditure of the Office of the Prime Minister are made under the Expenditure Head No. 2 of the Annual Estimates of the Budget. These provisions have been set apart for the recurrent and capital expenditure under 02 main projects, namely, the Office of the Prime Minister and the General Administration and Institutional Services. Total provisions amounting to Rs. 1374 million consisting Rs. 878 million towards the recurrent expenditure and Rs. 496 million towards the capital expenditure for the year 2016 were set aside. Accordingly, the summary of the financial progress of the project-wise provisions for the year 2016 is as follows:

Project	Total Provision (Rs. Million)		Financial Progress (Rs. Million)			
	Recurrent	Capital	Recurrent		Capital	
Office of the Prime Minister	436	430	417	96%	362	85%
General Administration and Institutional Services	442	66	335	76%	53	81%
Total	878	496	752	86%	415	84%

Under the project of the Office of the Prime Minister, disbursement of expenditure in the nature of expenses involving administration, supplies, maintenance and other activities relating to Temple Trees premises, Visumpaya, official residences of the Prime Minister in Nuwara Eliya and Bentota as well as expenditure in the form of recurrent and capital involving new construction works, obtaining of office equipment, acquirement of vehicles etc. is handled.

Under the project of the General Administration and Institutional Services, disbursement of recurrent and capital expenditure relating to units, namely, the Secretariat of the Prime Minister, National Media Center, Reconciliation Mechanism

Secretariat, Japan – Sri Lanka Cooperation Secretariat and the Anti-Corruption Committee Secretariat is taken care of.

Accordingly, the particulars in a nutshell with regard to key projects undertaken by means of the capital expenditure set aside for the year 2016 are as given below:

- 1) Achievement of a physical progress of about 75% in regard to the five storey building constructed in the Temple Trees premises and an expenditure amounting to Rs. 85 million has been incurred.
- 2) The expenditure incurred for the complete renovation of the Official residence of the Prime Minister in Nuwara Eliya and the repair work of the Official Residence in Bentota was Rs. 76 million.
- 3) An expenditure amounting to Rs. 68 million has been incurred for the purpose of obtaining a new office premises for the Reconciliation Mechanism Secretariat on a rent basis and for the work involving the office layout on its establishment and also for the purpose of obtaining office equipment.
- 4) The expenditure incurred for the purchase of an ambulance required by the Security Division of the Prime Minister and 02 car carrier vehicles was Rs. 34 million.
- 5) An expenditure amounting to Rs. 10 million has been incurred for the purpose of purchasing office equipment and machinery for the Operations Office of the Prime Minister.